



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 09/711,138 | 11/14/2000 | Yasushi Iida | 063993/0108 | 7019 |
| 22428 | 7590 | 04/19/2004 | EXAMINER | |
| FOLEY AND LARDNER SUITE 500 3000 K STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC 20007 | | | CASTELLANO, STEPHEN J | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3727 | 20 |

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

EXAMINER

ART UNIT

PAPER

20

DATE MAILED:

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner for Patents

see attached

S. Castellano
Stephen J. Castellano
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 3727

The reply filed on February 4, 2004 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant has previously elected to prosecute the specie of Group IV: Fig. 34. None of the claims of record is directed to the elected specie which discloses a outer shell of only one layer as shown in Fig. 34. Claim 1 is directed to a pressure vessel with an outer shell having three layers. Claim 58 is directed to a pressure vessel with an outer shell having two layers. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen J. Castellano whose telephone number is 703-308-1035. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 6:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lee W. Young can be reached on 703-308-2572. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Application/Control Number: 09/711,138
Art Unit: 3727

Page 3

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Stephen J. Castellano
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3727

sjc